



Tropentag, September 17-19, 2018, Ghent

“Global food security and food safety:
The role of universities”

Assessing the Sustainable Employment Conditions of Villagers for the Development of Agrotourism, Kalat Region, Iran

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Abstract

Kalat region is centre of husbandry, fish farming and horticulture in the north of khorasan Razavi province, northeast of Iran. Some agricultural products, husbandry and especially dry farming due to precipitation which have already significantly decreased. Recently, farmers and ranchers are in a very difficult situation, and some are forced to sell livestock, farms, gardens and migrating to the cities and employment in suspended jobs that may be fall in crime. In the absence of water resources for agriculture and horticulture that due to irrigation, while this area has many natural attractions, hot springs, seasonal waterfalls and medicinal plants, they could be developing Agro tourism, natural tourism and eco-tourism. The aim of this study was to evaluate the potential of 12 rural that more than 25 households (around 2700 people) in the village. Study method, field survey, interview and questionnaire from target community (rural manager, trustees and entrepreneurs in villages). It should be noted that the results indicated that villagers needed educational, financial and infrastructure support. In the case of the creation of seasonal markets for the sale of indigenous products, many villagers will benefit, and handicrafts related to livestock products such as wool, carpet weaving, felt and ... will be active. Also, it seems to provide the necessary training to the villagers, equipping and renewing buildings in rural areas, in order to attract tourists to this area, allowing villagers to provide sustainable employment. This situation makes the survival of rural villages, rehabilitation of rural handicrafts and even rural towns will return. If rural tourism and agro tourism are activated, it would be possible to boost the economic market dependent on rural products and handicrafts. This will lead to the revival of rural craftsmanship, rural women's domestic employment. The result of this process will be the proceeds from the direct sale of dairy products to tourists and the satisfaction of rural life and the sustainable development of rural businesses. There for, after the correct implementation of the Rural Rehabilitation Management programme and providing the required services, would be return around 40% of the immigrant population to these villages.

Keywords: Fish farming, handicrafts, husbandry, livestock products, rural tourism